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NICARAGUA.

*Reports from Bluefields—Fruit port.*BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *September 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following weekly report: Three steamships have been inspected and cleared for New Orleans, viz, the *Alabama*, *Jno. Wilson*, and *Breifond*, none of which carried passengers; copies of certificates given to masters are inclosed. For the week ended August 25, 3 deaths occurred in Bluefields—1 native adult of abscess and bilious fever; 1 native adult, tuberculosis; 1 native adult, diarrhea and rheumatism. The sanitary condition of this port and adjacent territory continues good.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *September 5, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make my weekly report as follows: One steamship, the *Hiram*, has been inspected and cleared for New Orleans. No passengers. Copy of certificate given master inclosed.

There were 3 deaths in Bluefields in the week ended September 2, 1900—1 native child, malarial fever; 1 native infant, convulsions; 1 native adult, tuberculosis. The general health of the town and vicinity continues good.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PARAGUAY.

*Plague reported in Asuncion.*ASUNCION, PARAGUAY, *July 24, 1900.*

SIR: I have to report the appearance of the bubonic plague in this consular district, and also to inclose clipping and translation of the decree of the Paraguayan Government declaring officially the existence of the plague in this country.

Respectfully,

W. HARRISON,

United States Vice-Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

*Against the enemies of the communities.*ASUNCION, *July 24, 1900.*

The government of the Republic has issued the following decree, taking precautionary measures, and which must be adopted to prevent the development and importation of infectious diseases to which it refers:

Compliant to the note of the 23d instant of the national board of health communicating the existence of some cases of the bubonic pest according to microscopical examination practiced by the bacteriologist Dr. Elmossian with specimens taken from a sick person suspected of infectious fever, although it has not been possible to make a complete bacteriological examination because the institute with the apparatus lately acquired in Europe has not yet been definitely organized.

That from the investigations practiced it results that the germs of said disease have been imported in some shipment of flour and wheat from Argentine ports.

Considering it necessary to adopt precautionary measures which the circumstances require so as to suffocate the evil after hearing the council of ministers.

DECREES.

ARTICLE 1. *Resolved*, that all vessels, cargoes, baggages, and passengers which leave the port of this capital, for the exterior, or interior of the Republic, shall go through a thoroughly good process of disinfection.

ART. 2. *Resolved*, that the port of this capital is the exclusive point of the sanitary station.

ART. 3. Vessels coming from the Argentine will not have frank entrance without previous disinfection according to the terms of the first article.

ART. 4. The national medical board of health is in charge of the execution of this decree.

ART. 5. Be it communicated, published, and given to the Official Register.

ACEVAL.
GUILLERMO DE LOS RIOS
FABIO QUEIROLO.
FRANCISCO CAMPOS.
JOSE TOMAS LEGAL.
J. A. ESCURRA.

PORTO RICO.

Report from Ponce.

PONCE, P. R., *September 3, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the weekly quarantine and bills of health reports for the week ended September 1, 1900. Also the summary of transactions and the monthly report of inspection of immigrants for the month of August, 1900. The past month has been a very quiet one in shipping circles, and scarcely more than routine work has been done at this office. One vessel was held in quarantine, but allowed to take passengers. The enormous death rate has increased considerably during the month, nearly a hundred more deaths being reported. Many of these persons are those that flock from all over the island to this city, which has the unfortunate reputation of being very charitable. Some little effort has been made to check this influx of sick and poverty stricken, but it has availed little. By popular subscription a kind of "soup house" is being carried on, feeding about 1,200 persons daily at an expense of about \$400 weekly. This has relieved the condition of things somewhat.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Summary of transactions of service during the month of August, 1900.

PONCE, P. R., *September 3, 1900.*

Number of deaths reported during August, 1900 (a).....	681
Number of deaths reported during August, 1899 (a).....	356
Number of births reported during August, 1900 (a).....	107
Number of births reported during August, 1899 (a).....	42
Number of vessels inspected during August, 1900.....	15
Number of vessels inspected during August, 1899.....	22
Number of bills of health issued during August, 1900....	16
Number of bills of health issued during August, 1899.....	22
Number of vessels in quarantine during August, 1900.....	1
Number of passengers inspected during August, 1900, incoming.....	89
Number of passengers inspected during August, 1900, in transit.....	133
Number of crew inspected during August, 1900.....	436
Number of vaccination certificates stamped during August, 1900.....	3
Number of immigrants inspected during August, 1900.....	10
Rejections.....	0

a These figures are for the city proper, the plays, and surrounding district of Ponce.